## IN THE CLAIMS

For the convenience of the Examiner, all pending claims of the present Application are shown below whether or not an amendment has been made.

Please amend the claims as follows.

1.   **(Currently Amended)**   A method for conducting a transfer of a conference call, comprising:

**receiving media streams from a plurality of endpoints participating in a conference call;**

receiving a message at a media gateway to transfer **responsibility for mixing of the media streams** ~~a conference call~~ from a first call resource to a second call resource;

transferring **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ from the first call resource to the second call resource based on the message; and

communicating a prompt to the clients during the transfer of **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ if the message indicates a change in the number of clients participating in the conference call, the prompt operable to mask the transfer of **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ between the first and second call resources.

2.    **(Currently Amended)**    The method of Claim 1, wherein:

receiving the message at the media gateway to transfer **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ from the first call resource to the second call resource comprises a request from an additional client to join the conference call; and

the prompt indicates that the additional client has joined the conference call.

3.    **(Currently Amended)**    The method of Claim 1, wherein:

receiving the message at the media gateway to transfer **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ from the first call resource to the second call resource comprises a request from one of the clients participating in the conference call to exit the conference call; and

the prompt indicates that the one client has exited the conference call.

4.    **(Currently Amended)**    The method of Claim 1, wherein:

receiving the message at the media gateway to transfer **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ from the first call resource to the second call resource comprises a request to initiate an additional conference call on the first call resource; and

if the message does not indicate the change in the number of clients, **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ is transferred in response to detecting a period of silence in the conference call.

5.    **(Currently Amended)**    The method of Claim 1, wherein the **media streams comprise** ~~conference call comprises~~ packets of voice information.

6.    **(Original)**  A media gateway, comprising:

an interface operable to couple to a communication network; and

a processing module coupled to the interface, the processing module operable to:

play a prompt to a plurality of clients if a transfer message indicates a change in the number of clients participating in a conference call; and

transfer the conference call from a first call resource to a second call resource;

wherein the processing module simultaneously plays the prompt and transfers the conference call.

7.    **(Original)**  The media gateway of Claim 6, wherein:

the transfer message comprises a request by an additional client to join the conference call; and

the prompt indicates that the additional client joined the conference call.

8.    **(Original)**  The media gateway of Claim 6, wherein:

the transfer message comprises a request by one of the clients participating in the conference call to exit the conference call; and

the prompt indicates that the one client exited the conference call.

9.    **(Original)**    The media gateway of Claim 6, wherein:

the transfer message comprises a request to initiate an additional conference call on the first call resource; and

if the transfer message does not indicate the change in the number of clients, the processing module is further operable to transfer the conference call in response to detecting a period of silence in the conference call.

10.   **(Currently Amended)**   Logic encoded in media for conducting a transfer of a conference call and operable to perform the following steps:

**receiving media streams from a plurality of endpoints participating in a conference call;**

receiving a message at a media gateway to transfer **responsibility for mixing of the media streams** ~~a conference call~~ from a first call resource to a second call resource;

transferring **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ from the first call resource to the second call resource based on the message; and

communicating a prompt to the clients during the transfer of **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ if the message indicates a change in the number of clients participating in the conference call, the prompt operable to mask the transfer of **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ between the first and second call resources.

11.   **(Currently Amended)**   The logic encoded in media of Claim 10, wherein:

receiving the message at the media gateway to transfer **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ from the first call resource to the second call resource comprises a request from an additional client to join the conference call; and

the prompt indicates that the additional client has joined the conference call.

12.     **(Currently Amended)**    The logic encoded in media of Claim 10, wherein:

receiving the message at the media gateway to transfer **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ from the first call resource to the second call resource comprises a request from one of the clients participating in the conference call to exit the conference call; and

the prompt indicates that the one client has exited the conference call.

13.     **(Currently Amended)**    The logic encoded in media of Claim 10, wherein:

receiving the message at the media gateway to transfer **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ from the first call resource to the second call resource comprises a request to initiate an additional conference call on the first call resource; and

if the message does not indicate the change in the number of clients, **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ is transferred in response to detecting a period of silence in the conference call.

14. **(Currently Amended)** An apparatus for conducting a transfer of a conference call, comprising:

**means for receiving media streams from a plurality of endpoints participating in a conference call;**

means for receiving a message at a media gateway to transfer **responsibility for mixing of the media streams** ~~a conference call~~ from a first call resource to a second call resource;

means for transferring **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ from the first call resource to the second call resource based on the message; and

means for communicating a prompt to the clients during the transfer of **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ if the message indicates a change in the number of clients participating in the conference call, the prompt operable to mask the transfer of **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ between the first and second call resources.

15. **(Original)** The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein:

the message comprises a request from an additional client to join the conference call; and

the prompt indicates that the additional client has joined the conference call.

16. **(Original)** The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein:

the message comprises a request from one of the clients participating in the conference call to exit the conference call; and

the prompt indicates that the one client has exited the conference call.

17. **(Currently Amended)** The apparatus of Claim 14, wherein:

the message comprises a request to initiate an additional conference call on the first call resource; and

if the message does not indicate the change in the number of clients, **responsibility for mixing of** the **media streams** ~~conference call~~ is transferred in response to detecting a period of silence.

18.  **(Currently Amended)**    A method for conducting a transfer of a conference call, the method comprising:

**receiving unmixed media streams from a plurality of endpoints participating in a conference call;**

receiving a message at a media gateway to transfer **responsibility for mixing of the unmixed media streams** ~~a conference call~~ from a first call resource to a second call resource;

introducing a delay in a selected one of a first mixed media stream and a second mixed media stream to synchronize the first mixed media stream and the second mixed media stream; and

transferring **responsibility for mixing of** the **unmixed media streams** ~~conference call~~ from the first call resource to the second call resource upon confirming that the first and second mixed media streams are synchronized.

19.  **(Original)**    The method of Claim 18, further comprising:

receiving, at the media gateway, the first mixed stream generated by the first call resource;

receiving, at the media gateway, the second mixed media stream generated by the second call; and

analyzing the first and second mixed media streams to determine the delay between the first and second mixed media streams.

20. **(Original)** The method of Claim 18, wherein introducing the delay comprises:

instructing the second call resource to add the delay to the second mixed media stream; and

receiving, at the media gateway, the second mixed media stream with the added delay.

21. **(Original)** The method of Claim 18, wherein introducing the delay comprises:

instructing the first call resource to add the delay to the first mixed media stream; and

receiving, at the media gateway, the first mixed media stream with the added delay.

22. **(Original)** The method of Claim 18, wherein the first and second mixed media streams comprise packets of voice information.

23.   **(New)**   A method for mixing data packets, comprising:

receiving unmixed media streams from a plurality of endpoints participating in a conference call;

transmitting the unmixed media streams to a first call resource;

receiving a first mixed media stream from the first call resource;

transmitting the first mixed media stream to the plurality of endpoints;

detecting a transfer condition;

duplicating the unmixed media streams;

transmitting the duplicated unmixed media streams to a second call resource;

receiving a second mixed media stream from the second call resource;

validating the second mixed media stream;

transmitting the second mixed media stream to the plurality of endpoints;

ending transmitting the first mixed media stream to the plurality of endpoints, and

masking the transition from transmitting the first mixed media stream to transmitting the second mixed media stream.


24.   **(New)**   The method of Claim 23, wherein the transfer condition includes a request to add a new endpoint to the conference call.


25.   **(New)**   The method of Claim 24, wherein masking the transition includes playing a message to each of the plurality of endpoints that the new endpoint has joined the conference call.

26. **(New)** The method of Claim 23, wherein the transfer condition includes a request to remove at least one of the plurality of endpoints from the conference call.

27. **(New)** The method of Claim 26, wherein masking the transition includes playing a message to the plurality of endpoints that the at least one of the plurality of endpoints has left the conference call.

28. **(New)** The method of Claim 23, wherein the transfer condition includes a request to initiate an additional conference call.

29. **(New)** The method of Claim 28, wherein masking the transition includes detecting a period of silence; and

wherein transmitting the second mixed media stream and ending transmitting the first mixed media stream occur during the period of silence.

30. **(New)** The method of Claim 23, wherein validating the second mixed media stream includes modifying packet header information associated with the second mixed media stream to correspond with packet header information associated with the first mixed media stream.

31. **(New)** The method of Claim 30, wherein the packet header information to be modified is selected from the group consisting of source information, destination information, size information, SSRC numbers, sequence numbers, order numbers, and time stamps.

32.   **(New)**   The method of Claim 23, wherein validating
the second mixed media stream includes introducing a delay in
the first mixed media stream or in the second mixed media
stream to synchronize the first mixed media stream and the
second mixed media stream.

33.  **(New)**    A  method  of  allocating  call  resources,
comprising:

receiving  at  a  media  gateway  a  request  to  initiate  a
first  conference  call  between  a  first  plurality  of  conference
call participants;

initiating the first conference call;

receiving  at  a  media  gateway  a  first  plurality  of  unmixed
packet  streams  from  the  first  plurality  of  conference  call
participants;

transmitting  the  first  plurality  of  unmixed  packet
streams  to  a  first  call  resource  for  mixing  at  the  first  call
resource;

utilizing  the  first  call  resource  to  mix  the  first
plurality of  unmixed packet streams;

receiving  at  the  media  gateway  a  request  to  initiate  a
second  conference  call  between  a  second  plurality  of
conference call participants;

initiating the second conference call;

receiving  at  the  media  gateway  a  second  plurality  of
unmixed packet streams  from the second plurality of conference
call participants;

transmitting  the  second  plurality  of  unmixed  packet
streams  to  a  second  call  resource  for  mixing  at  the  second
call resource;

utilizing  the  second  call  resource  to  mix  the  second
plurality of  unmixed packet streams;

determining  that  the  first  call  resource  can  mix  the
second  plurality  of  unmixed  packet  streams  while  the  call
resource  continues  mixing  the  first  plurality  of  unmixed
packet streams;

duplicating the second plurality of unmixed packet streams;

transmitting the duplicated second plurality of unmixed packet streams to the first call resource;

utilizing the first call resource to mix the duplicated second plurality of unmixed packet streams while the first call resource also mixes the first plurality of unmixed packet streams; and

ending transmitting the second plurality of unmixed packet streams to the second call resource for mixing at the second call resource.